

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 22, 1851

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Weather and Fire

At Sweet Home, a sawmill was destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning. The fire broke out after the night shift had left the mill, and was caused, the operators believe, by friction of a conveyor belt which had come loose from its pulley. The great Tillamook region forest fire of a few years ago was caused by friction of a cable, used in logging, on a stump.

Also on Tuesday in Linn county, large stores of hay in two separate barns were menaced by the process which is unscientifically called "spontaneous combustion." The hay in one of these barns was being removed as rapidly as possible in the hope of saving the barn; the hay was bursting into flames as soon as it was exposed to the air.

Throughout the northwest serious fires were being fought, and the layman was blaming the heat wave. It played a part of course; but foresters know that relative humidity is a much more important factor. The figure denoting relative humidity represents the percentage of moisture present in the atmosphere with relation to the saturation point, at which clouds or fog would be formed. Heat does lower the relative humidity by raising the saturation point; but wind and other movement of air also plays a part in lowering humidity, in contrast to the higher humidity of days we describe as "sultry," when the air is still. On such days people are more uncomfortable but there is less danger of fire.

Discovery of the importance of relative humidity to danger of fire has made it possible for foresters to gauge more scientifically the fire danger at any given time. At present, of course, conditions are extremely hazardous throughout the northwest. This newer scientific basis for prediction makes the warnings of foresters more authoritative. Logging and sawmilling operators accept these warnings without question and shut down, either with or without official orders. Similar heedfulness on the part of the general public will help to reduce the number of costly fires in the forests.

In the Willamette national forest to the east of Salem, a general closure to all travel except on the North Santiam highway and the Breitenbush road is now in effect. Other entry may be made only by permit. Compliance with these restrictions, and care about smoking even in cars along these roads, will keep the visitor to the forests "in the clear" legally and may prevent a costly conflagration.

Transmission Lines to Be Built

Five transmission lines will be constructed for the distribution of electric energy from Bonneville dam. One main line will run from the dam to Coulee dam, interconnecting these power plants and enabling the government to buy energy from itself for completing the construction at Coulee. Another line, also 230 kilovolt, will run from the dam to Vancouver, Wash., on the north side of the Columbia. From Vancouver a line will run north to Kelso and Aberdeen and south to Eugene. A line will run from the dam east to The Dalles. The total cost of \$10,750,000 is to be provided from PWA funds. Two years will be required for the construction work.

Main transmission lines distributing energy at wholesale will be of no value unless connections are made for distribution. Who is going to buy this energy? J. D. Ross, administrator, says he has the energy for sale to public and private purchasers. The power companies which have the existing distribution facilities have made no move to buy energy. Whether the rates are not attractive or whether they are holding back for other reasons we do not know. Washington has some public districts formed which will be in the market for Bonneville energy. Oregon has none within the transmission area.

It is not hard to foresee developments which will put things in a mess. It would be a silly waste to build the transmission lines and have no customers. Mere displacement of present generating equipment represents an economic loss unless a marked saving results. Building public lines to parallel existing lines is uneconomic duplication. The situation calls for "economic planning" which will utilize the energy of Bonneville for the public welfare at a minimum of disaster to existing investment. Those in authority, both federal and state, ought to counsel with all interested parties to effect a wise solution of the Bonneville problem.

Contemplating Creative Genius

Whoever appreciates genius, they tell us, shares to some extent in it. Whoever enjoys a really great book or symphony or music, or is able to assimilate some new, brilliant idea presented by writer or speaker, has in himself the principal elements of the ability which created those works and ideas.

It is a comforting thought, enabling those of us who have not created mightily, to avoid envy. We Americans, having assimilated the idea that all men are created equal, dislike intensely to admit mental inferiority. We do not so much mind the idea of physical inferiority because we may fall back on the contention that mind is more important; and we all have our defenses against any admission of social inferiority although, as Ruggles of Red Gap concluded after deep reflection, no one minds admitting that he has some social inferiorities. It is from admitting that there are persons superior to ourselves that we rebel.

But on the question of mentality we are all touchy. There are some "outs." We may point to the gifted one's greater opportunity for education, for travel, for leisure to pursue creative thought and practice. Or we may seize at the explanation of our former fellow townsman, Albert Richard Wetjen, whose answer to questions about his literary success was the one word "poverty." Economic necessity drove him to achievement—or so he modestly contended.

It is true that some men create while others of apparently equal talents gravitate to the role of critic. Perhaps it is true that all who appreciate great thoughts and great works have in them the germ of equal greatness. But they must lack some spark, some inward compulsion, possessed by those who do create and achieve. That may be a spiritual, rather than a mental quality. One element of it may be determination, another may be energy and another may be courage.

When Bonneville power begins to get in its real kicks, we'll have electric chairs for files. At any rate the congressional committee in investigating the TVA found one in full operation on a farm down there. It consists of an electrified pan attached to the barn wall near each cow's stall. When a fly lights on it there is a sudden "ping," a flash of light and Mr. Fly falls dead upon a "mortuary pan" below.

The federal treasury is spending the summer scheming how it can increase the tax on the "little fellow." This year the treasury is lading out the dough; next year it will be siphoning it back. There's no election in 1939!

Congressmen visiting TVA territory met a farmer who had electrified his farm. He told his visitors that use of electricity had saved him the hiring of two men. Technology on the farm makes sociological problems as well as that in cities.

In 1934 forty per cent of babies were born in hospitals. Will the hero-worshippers of 60 years hence be buying whole hospitals as birthplace shrines of the great?

Lost, strayed or stolen: Western Oregon's seabreeze. Reward will be paid for its prompt return to Willamette valley points.

Looking at the cuts in the paving for a new sewer on Court street we wonder if a steeper for pavings could be invented.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

California's first governor, 7-21-33 an Oregon man, highly praised by great editor of Golden State: He was our own Peter H. Burnett:

(Continuing from yesterday.) Still quoting Governor Burnett: "The people of California may be safely trusted upon this subject, for there are no people more able and willing to pay the just taxes necessary to support the government than they. What property they have commands a high and ready price, paid in the precious metals; and labor meets such ample reward that no healthy man can complain of poverty. The law protects every man in his person and property. For the protection it gives his person he ought to pay a capitation, or poll tax, and for the protection it gives his property, he ought to right to pay a tax in proportion to its amount and value."

"Governor Burnett then went on with a curious device to secure the payment of both these taxes, from a population so migratory and in many cases so transitory as much of the population of California was then. That was 'that no individual who shall refuse to pay his taxes, being able, when they shall be legally demanded, shall be permitted to bring a civil suit in any court in this state for the period of one year, and not then until all arrearages are paid.' In other words, whoever would not pay the public debt he owed the state should have no means of collecting private debts owned to himself."

"These were old fashioned precepts of a simpler time and some of them could no longer be applied literally to the more complex conditions of public and private life today. "But the principle behind them is sound and changeless. The interest in this particular formulation of that principle is merely historic. They happen to be the first official words spoken in and to the state of California. Otherwise they are no more important than the same truths expressed at any other time by anybody else. Benjamin Franklin had done it even better. The arithmetic does it best of all. And because the arithmetic is changeless, because it rests on nobody's authority and is repeatable by nobody's votes, the precepts based on it are likewise permanent."

So ends the editorial article taken from the San Francisco Chronicle. Regular readers of this column know that Peter H. Burnett, first governor of California, came to Oregon with the 1843 covered wagon train, the first cavalcade of the kind to bring their wagons all the way through—the "Applegate train."

Burnett, leader of a large contingent in the wagon train from Weston, Mo., had been influential in that state—had served as prosecuting attorney, having been a practicing lawyer.

When the thousand-odd people of that wagon train organized and adopted rules, preparatory to making their epochal start, they chose Peter H. Burnett captain and J. W. Nesmith orderly sergeant. They both became national figures, as did several other members, not overlooking the Applegates.

Later, John Gant, a "mountain man," who knew the trail, was made captain of the leading section of the train, and Jesse Applegate of the "cow column," the following section.

Burnett came quickly into leadership positions in the Oregon country. At the first election at the polls of officials of the provisional government, in 1844 (May 14), he was chosen a member of the unicameral legislature of eight members, then called legislative committee. Only three districts (as what became counties were then called) were represented, four of the members from Tualatin district, of which Burnett was one. A. L. Lovejoy was from the Clackamas district, the other from the Clatsop district, that became Marion county. The three were Daniel Waldo, T. D. Kaiser, Robert Newell. Newell had been a mountain man and had an Indian wife. The other two were of the 1843 wagon train. They all of course brought their white wives with them. Though some brought colored slaves.

Any Oregonian who has not read the governors' message to that first elected Oregon legislature (1844) should do so. It is found at page 423, first volume of Bancroft's Oregon History. The governors' message is not a typographical error. There were three governors then, elected on the same date as the eight legislators, May 14. They were P. G. Stewart, Osborne Russell and W. J. Bailey. The last named, Dr. Bailey, English, was a well educated man, though he drank too much alcohol and was not a good husband. Russell was a "mountain man," born in Maine, as well trained as Bailey, and in habits and character much superior. Stewart came with the 1843 immigration, and was worthy. They were the second and last of the triumvirate—the three governor functionaries. That one and only governors' message was a gem, worthy of its unique place in Oregon history.

The committee on rules of that first Oregon legislature elected at the polls, with its eight members—it was entitled to nine but Yamhill district did not elect—consisted of Burnett, Daniel Waldo and A. L. Lovejoy. Waldo was the pioneer whose name lives in the Waldo Hills. Lovejoy was the man of the '42 immigration who turned back at Wallatuta and went with Dr. Whitman on that perilous and famed winter journey across the plains, missing death a dozen times. That com-

"Japan Relinquishes Olympic Games"



Radio Programs

- KSLM—THURSDAY—1370 Kc.**
 - 7:30—News
 - 7:45—Time O' Day
 - 8:00—Variety Program
 - 8:30—Little and Encore
 - 8:45—News
 - 9:00—The Pastor's Call
 - 9:15—The Friendly Circle
 - 9:45—Charm Counsellor
 - 10:00—Women in the News
 - 10:15—Pay for My Seat
 - 10:30—Morning Magazine
 - 10:45—Hawaiian Paradise
 - 11:00—News
 - 11:15—Organalities
 - 11:30—Hal Stokes Orchestra
 - 11:45—National Inventor's Congress
 - 12:00—Valse Parade
 - 12:15—News
 - 12:30—Hilbilly Serenade
 - 12:45—The Hatfield's
 - 1:00—Dick Haynes
 - 1:15—Country Editor
 - 1:30—Musical Salute
 - 1:45—The Johnson Family
 - 2:00—Ivory's Laxy Rhapsody
 - 2:15—Community Hall
 - 2:45—Madie Harris
 - 3:00—Feminine Fancies
 - 3:30—Pat Barnes Barnstormers
 - 4:00—Alfred Wallenstein's Orchestra
 - 4:30—Radio Campus
 - 4:45—Varieties
 - 5:00—Wild Life Program
 - 5:30—Aunt Jenny
 - 5:45—Dinner Hour Melodies
 - 6:00—Sports Bulletin
 - 6:45—Tonight's Headlines
 - 7:00—Rome Vincent
 - 7:15—Walshisms
 - 7:30—The Green Hornet
 - 8:00—News
 - 8:15—Don't You Believe It
 - 8:30—Fred's Nagel's Orchestra
 - 8:45—Vocal Varieties
 - 9:00—Newspaper of the Air
 - 9:15—Swingtime
 - 9:30—Press Time
 - 10:00—Skinny Kniss Orchestra
 - 10:30—Sterling Young's Orchestra
 - 11:00—Everett Hoaglund's Orchestra
- KOIN—THURSDAY—940 Kc.**
 - 6:30—Market Reports
 - 6:45—KOIN Clock
 - 7:00—News
 - 7:15—Irene Beasley
 - 7:30—Romance of Helen Trent
 - 7:45—Our Gal Sunday
 - 8:00—The Goldbergs
 - 8:15—Promenade Symphony Orch.
 - 8:30—Sally of the Star
 - 10:00—Big Sister
 - 10:15—Aunt Jenny
 - 10:45—This and That
 - 11:15—Ray Block's Varieties
 - 11:30—Scatter's Dances
 - 11:45—News
- KOIN—THURSDAY—940 Kc.**
 - 6:30—Market Reports
 - 6:45—KOIN Clock
 - 7:00—News
 - 7:15—Irene Beasley
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 - 10:00—Big Sister
 - 10:15—Aunt Jenny
 - 10:45—This and That
 - 11:15—Ray Block's Varieties
 - 11:30—Scatter's Dances
 - 11:45—News
- KEX—THURSDAY—1180 Kc.**
 - 6:30—Musical Clock
 - 6:45—Family Altar Hour
 - 7:15—Davis Exercises
- KGW—THURSDAY—620 Kc.**
 - 7:00—Originalities
 - 7:15—Trail Blazers
 - 7:45—News
 - 8:00—Lee S. Roberts
 - 8:15—The O'Neill
 - 8:45—Ray Towers, Troubadour
 - 9:15—Your Radio Review
 - 9:30—Words and Music
 - 10:00—Betty and Bob
 - 10:15—Arnold Grimm's Daughter
 - 10:30—Valiant Lady
 - 10:45—Hymns of All Churches
 - 11:00—Story of Mary Martin
 - 11:15—Ma Perkins
 - 11:30—Pepper Young's Family
 - 11:45—The Guiding Light
 - 12:00—Backstage Wife
 - 12:15—Stella Dallas
 - 12:30—Rash Hughes
 - 1:00—Hollywood News Flashes
 - 1:05—Top Hatters
 - 1:15—Singing Sam
 - 2:30—Woman's Magazine of Air
 - 3:00—Easy Aces
 - 3:15—Mr. Keen
 - 3:30—News
 - 3:45—Pleasant Interludes
 - 4:00—Buddy Vallee Hour
 - 5:00—Promenade Symphony Orch.
 - 6:00—Music Hall
 - 7:00—Amos 'n' Andy
 - 7:15—Three Cheers
 - 8:30—Orchestra
 - 8:45—Symphony Hour
 - 9:15—Society's Reminiscences
 - 9:45—Read Summer Institute Review
 - 10:00—News Flashes
 - 10:15—Orchestra
- Financial Service.**
 - 7:45—Vivienne Ensemble
 - 7:58—Market Quotations
 - 8:30—National Farm and Home
 - 9:30—Christian Science Program
 - 9:45—Glen Darwin, Baritone
 - 10:00—Fran Allison
 - 10:15—Let's Talk It Over
 - 10:30—News
 - 10:45—Home Institute
 - 11:00—Light Opera Selections
 - 11:30—Your Radio Review
 - 11:45—WRK Revue
 - 12:00—US Dept. of Agriculture
 - 12:15—Abe Berowitz, Violinist
 - 12:25—Gabriel Heater
 - 12:30—News
 - 12:45—Market Reports
 - 12:50—Dance Hour
 - 1:00—The Four of Us
 - 1:10—Irene Glen, Organist
 - 1:15—Don Winslow
 - 1:30—Financial and Grain Reports
 - 1:35—Edward Davis, Singer
 - 1:45—Sheffter and Brenner
 - 2:00—Orchestra
 - 2:30—Songs of Yesterday
 - 2:35—News
 - 2:50—Tune Twisters
 - 3:00—Irma Glen, Organist
 - 3:05—Charles Runyan, Organist
 - 3:15—Edwards Davis, Singer
 - 3:45—Birthdays in the News
 - 4:00—Stepping Ahead with America
 - 4:30—Port of Missing Hits
 - 5:00—Pulitzer Prize Plays
 - 6:00—People I Have Known
 - 7:00—Sons of the Lone Star
 - 7:15—Community Chest Review
 - 7:30—Orchestra
 - 8:00—News
 - 8:15—Orchestra
 - 8:30—Baseball
 - 10:15—Orchestra
 - 11:00—News
 - 11:15—Charles Runyan, Organist
- KOAC—THURSDAY—560 Kc.**
 - 8:00—General Sociology
 - 9:00—Homemakers' Hour
 - 9:15—More About Helping Your Child Grow Up
 - 9:30—Tennis Tel.
 - 10:15—Story Hour for Adults
 - 11:00—The Bellman
 - 11:30—Music of the Masters
 - 12:00—News
 - 12:15—Farm Hour
 - 12:30—Market and crop reports
 - 12:45—Farm Flashes
 - 1:15—Educational Development—Discussion Group
 - 1:45—Monitor Views the News
 - 2:00—Home Garden Hour
 - 6:30—Farm Hour
 - 6:30—Agriculture Viewed by Editors
 - 6:45—Market and Crop Reports
 - 7:15—Extension Service Period
 - O. S. Fletcher
 - 7:45—News
- Women Hold Picnic**
ROBERTS—The Women's club of Union Hill held a picnic at Riversdale park Sunday.

Interpreting the News

By MARK SULLIVAN

AVONDALE, Chester County, Pa., July 20—Here in eastern Pennsylvania it was in fact the country of the spring house; here they were more common than elsewhere and more solidly built. The spring house built ran from southern New York state through Pennsylvania and Maryland to the Potomac river. I saw one in New England, nor in the west or south, though my observation may be incomplete.

In level country they could hardly be—their existence then depended on springs, which as a rule bubble up only on the slopes of hills in rolling country. Around the spring were built walls of strong masonry and over it a high roof. The one on this farm, and many others in eastern Pennsylvania, had a second story. It was in fact the main house. Around it, to shade it, and help keep it cool, were planted maple trees; on some farms a few oaks or beeches or locusts of the original forest were kept.

When I was a boy here the spring house was a principal scene of farm activity. After milking each morning and evening, the milk, contained in shallow tin pails, was set on flat stones to cool. It was the only refrigeration we knew. Once a week the accumulation was skimmed—the cream that had come to the top lifted off with a "skimmer" a shallow, circular, rimless vessel of this metal with holes in the bottom, through which the milk was strained. The cream would drip back into the pail.

The cream was put into the churn. The one we used was a barrel-shaped vessel, smaller than a barrel but larger than a keg. Churning was a plodding chore; the task was frequently mine. After the butter had "come," my mother would take it out and knead it in a mass until the last trace of liquid was squeezed out.

Then she would take in her left hand the butter mold, a circular wooden disk about three inches in diameter, upon the top of which was a pattern deeply cut in the wood—the pattern on ours was a large strawberry. Using this as a base, she would build upon it short, large-bellied cones, weighing a pound each. These, the following day, my father would take to market by the city, together with other farm products.

The residue from the skimming and churning, the skimmed milk and the buttermilk, remained in the spring house. They, with the fresh milk, were incidents of the family diet. After the skimmed milk had stood in the cool water a few days, it turned into thick gobs of curds at the top, with a whey which I remember we called it "honey clabber," another name is "cottage cheese." A term used by the Pennsylvania Dutch was "Schmierkase." Along with the varieties of milk in the spring house were frequently rice puddings and other forms of cooked food set there to cool. At any time, except perhaps the day after the weekly churning, a troop of hungry men could make an ample meal without leaving the spring house.

It's Obsolete Now
The spring house continued in use, on our farm, until about three years ago. Long after we had ceased to churn our own butter, after we had begun to send our milk to the city every day, it was put in the spring house to cool before shipment. But the company that bought the milk kept advancing the standard of coolness which the milk must have at the moment of delivery at the Railroad station. Finally they said the milk must have a temperature not greater than 50 degrees. That the ancient spring house could achieve. Thereup there occurred, in times of hottest weather, and considering the trip to the railroad station—that was more than under our eyes an abdication of nature to invention of the old to the new. One of man's oldest ways of life gave way to one of the most modern—we set up an electric cooling apparatus in the barn.

Since then, the old spring house has been out of use. Not once in a week does anyone enter it, even for a drink of water. In the eaves, the birds have undisturbed nesting places. At nightfall the chimney swallows circle merrily about. From the ridge of the roof at night an occasional owl cries his melancholy "who-oo." Within the pool is serene and still. From it, a tiny stream trickles out to keep moist a spot where mint grows wild. Below, it flows into a bit of marshy land, where, in early March, the cry of the "knee-deeps" heralds the coming of spring.

Masons Are Scarce
For a lack of cement and appearance, we keep the old spring house in order. About a year ago we noticed that one of the walls needed straightening and some rebuilding. But during the whole year, we have been unable to get the work done. The two or three masons within a distance of several miles are busy and much sought after; jobs that can wait are postponed. It is the same with jobs of carpentering.

It occurs to me to wonder whether American youth has not taken too exclusively to white collar jobs. Masonry and carpentering are agreeable work, and much better paid than any comparable indoor jobs. And it is my strong conviction that, were the youth who have gone to the cities—too many for their own good as individuals, and too many for the good of the country. Excessive migration to cities is one of the causes of the commutation through which the country is passing. (New York Herald-Tribune Syndicate.)

The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

A CORRECTION

It is only fair to me, as well as the members of the democratic county central committee of Marion county, that you correct a statement in your issue of July 17, in which you state that two contested Mr. Bayne's election for state committeeman, while instead, it was Mr. Bayne who contested mine.

Mr. Kenneth Bayne was never elected. The minutes of the county central committee meeting were submitted to the credentials committee of the state committee. That committee composed of old time democrats, most all of them lawyers, ruled by a unanimous vote that according to the state law of Oregon as well as Roberts Rules of Order, D. J. Richards was elected state committeeman and the only authorized state committeeman for Marion county.

A courtesy vote was given to the three women present for that meeting only.

D. J. RICHARDS.

Ten Years Ago

July 21, 1923
Roy O. West of Chicago was appointed by President Coolidge to be secretary of the interior to succeed Hubert Work.

H. F. Durham, principal of Parrish junior high school, will be in Monmouth today to attend the educational conference to be held today.

Frank Neer and Harry Scott were in charge of Lion's picnic held at Rickreall with Independence Lions joining local group.

Queen's Ball Is Slated Tonight

MT. ANGEL—A special feature of the queen candidates' ball, scheduled for Thursday night at the Mt. Angel auditorium, will be the ceremony at which R. E. (Earl) Riley, Portland city commissioner, will be received into the order of the Flaxarians as the first honorary member.

This honor is being bestowed on the Rose City commissioner in recognition of his outstanding service to this community. He has been untiring in his efforts to advance the interests of the Oregon flax industry and has given much time to bringing the Mt. Angel flax festival to the notice of the people of Portland.

Music will be furnished by Bolton McMahon and his dance band of Portland.

Scouts' Mothers Plan Benefit Tea

DALLAS—The Boy Scout Mother's club was entertained at the home of Mrs. Howard J. Eastman Monday afternoon. A business meeting was held with the president, Mrs. Harry Pinkerton, presiding. Committees were appointed and plans completed for a benefit tea to be given in the gardens of the Robert Van Orsdel home Thursday afternoon, July 28, from 2 to 5 o'clock. David Waite and Jimmie Boydstun tied for first place in making the most advancement in Troop 4 for the past six months and will receive the award given by the club for this achievement. It was announced at this meeting. A pleasant social time and tea hour followed. Mrs. Lee Borland assisted the hostess in serving.

British Troops Guard Against new Reign of Terror in Holy Land



British troops massed at strategic points in Palestine following fresh outbreaks between Jews and Arabs in which many were killed and scores wounded. Street sniping and bombings marked the reign of terror which was worst in Haifa, Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv. British forces were taxed to the utmost to prevent open civil war as intestine battles broke out in the streets of many of the principal cities. Two British warships, the Emerald and Repulse, were ordered to Haifa where the situation was most serious. Both Jews and Arabs adopted an uncompromising stand. Arabs in other sections of the Near East backing their brothers in Palestine with contributions.